REMARKS

In the Office Action dated October 5, 2004, claims 3 and 14 were identified as containing allowable subject matter. In a subsequent telephone conversation with Examiner Au, he confirmed that claims 6 and 7 were also allowable, in view of their dependence from claim 14.

To advance the prosecution of the application, and avoid the need for an appeal, the subject matter of claim 3 has been incorporated into parent claim 1, to place claim 1, and its dependent claims, in condition for allowance. This same subject matter has also been added to claim 9, to place the system claims in condition for allowance.

In view of the amendment to claim 1, claim 14 becomes duplicative with claim 5, and has been canceled. Claims 4, 8, 12 and 15 have also been canceled.

It is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance, and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Registration No. 28,632

P.O. Box 1404 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404 (703) 836-6620